



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Yates, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Chairman  
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates  
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California/All Metals  
Daniel Cunningham, Metal Finishing Association  
Jacob Haik, Office of School Board Member Richard Vladovic  
Maria Elena Kennedy, Kennedy Communications  
Art Montez, AMA International  
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal  
Steve Mugg, South Orange County Representative, City of Mission Viejo

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald Loveridge, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Vice Chairman  
Greg Adams, L.A. County Sanitation District  
Felipe Aguirre, Vice Mayor, City of Maywood  
Eric Busch, Representative, South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy  
James R. Krausz, Esq., ALA Inland Counties  
Angelo Logan, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice  
Todd Priest, Representative, Orange County Business Council

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Earl Elrod, Board Member Assistant (*Yates*)

### AQMD STAFF:

Philip Crabbe, Community Relations Manager  
Anupom Ganguli, Asst. DEO/Public Advisor  
Lori Langrell, Secretary  
John Olvera, Principal Deputy District Counsel  
Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer  
Dipankar Sarkar, Planning & Rules Manager  
Jeanette Short, Sr. Administrative Secretary  
Paul Wright, Audio Visual Specialist

### Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Dennis Yates called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

**Agenda Item #2 – Approval of November 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items**

Chair Yates called for approval of the meeting minutes.

The November 13, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

***Action Item:** Staff will provide a list of programs that have been implemented in EJ areas, and funding allocated to those programs.*

Dr. Anupom Ganguli indicated to Mr. Art Montez that he would like to meet with him to discuss this request and Mr. Montez agreed to do so.

***Action Item:** Staff to research Proposed Rule 2301 and provide current status.*

Dr. Ganguli will follow up with Greg Adams who made the request, but the item will be placed on agenda at a later time.

***Action Item:** Staff to research Rule 1147, and to address the issue raised.*

Completed and response given to Mr. Geoffrey Blake.

**Agenda Item #3 – Overview of Roadway Effects**

Dr. Jean Ospital gave a presentation on the Roadway Effects of fine particulates.

Mr. Paul Avila asked whether studies have ever been conducted after it has rained. Dr. Ospital replied that studies are done on sunny days, over a period of one or two weeks and added that evening results show less of a drop off in particulates when taking into account distance from the roadway. Chair Yates commented that if someone lives near a railroad switching station, the emissions from the idling trains settle at about window level, and the trains idle mostly at night, which does not make the evening air any safer.

Ms. Maria Elena Kennedy asked why the trains idle. Dr. Ganguli replied that the railroads have indicated that it is too difficult to re-start the engines once they are cold and the operators bypass the anti-idling devices installed on locomotives.

Mr. Montez asked whether AQMD has any regulatory authority over the railroads. Chair Yates replied that AQMD has no regulatory authority over the railroads, which instead are regulated by the EPA. Dr. Ganguli added that public complaints regarding trains can be addressed as a public nuisance, and in certain circumstances, AQMD's Legal enforcement staff can take action. Mr. Montez asked if a person would make a complaint to the AQMD or to the EPA. Chair Yates indicated that the EPA is well aware of the situation with the trains and added that the EPA has control over boats and planes as well.

Mr. Avila asked about the life span of a train. Dr. Ganguli replied that the average life span of a train is over 40 years, and that EPA has regulations that classify a train engine as new if it has been rebuilt. He added that new rules take a very long time to develop and pass. Mr. Avila then asked if the Japanese trains are better, and asked about diesel trains versus electric trains. Dr. Ganguli indicated that there are only two train manufacturers in this country, GM and GE, for new locomotives and added that there electric trains are used all over the world, and there is no reason why they could not be used here.

Mr. Jacob Haik commented that the Port of Los Angeles has switched to cleaner burning equipment. Mr. Montez asked if the switchover at the port has been looked at, and has there been any studies regarding the changes at the Port. Dr. Ganguli replied that studies are being done, but they are not finalized.

Mr. Montez asked if there were any programs that give schools a solution to mitigate the effects of the roadway emissions, perhaps filters. Dr. Ospital indicated that there were pilot programs that have shown that filters do help, and in the past penalty money was used to install filters in schools near the refineries which were the subject of penalties. He added that the ports are applying for funds as well (\$5-\$6 million), to install filters in schools located near the ports.

Mr. Avila asked if there were any obvious deviations between the studies of roadway effects prepared by the different agencies. Dr. Ospital replied that if the testing and monitoring were done in the same way, the results should be about the same.

Mr. Dan Cunningham stated that when the MATES studies came out, the main hot spots were near freeways; now that there are more details, does this confirm the MATES findings? Dr. Ospital replied that it confirms and quantifies the studies, and provides measurement. Dr. Ganguli added that this study gives you information on actual distances from sources, which are helpful to jurisdictions, and not visible easily in the MATES results.

Mr. Montez asked if this information and the data are available on the AQMD website. Dr. Ospital indicated that the studies presented are not on the District website.

#### **Agenda Item #4 – Status update on Technology Advancement projects, including Plug-In Hybrid Technology and Fuel Cells**

Dipankar Sarkar gave a presentation on current Technology Advancement projects including Plug-In Hybrid Technology and Fuel Cells.

Mr. Avila asked if the fuel cell bus has an on-board emissions monitor. Mr. Sarkar replied that the emissions are very low, and water comes out of the tailpipe. He added that the onboard computers within the bus track performance for the manufacturer. Mr. Avila then asked if these buses will be limited to a “dial-a-ride” service and not mass transit if there is no demand for the buses. Mr. Sarkar replied that there are local agencies that exist to provide those services.

Chair Yates commented that he sits on the Omnitrans Board, and he suggested that if you want to see change and greater utilization of new technology, you should call your local transit company.

#### **Agenda Item #5 –Local Government & Small Business Assistance Advisory Group 2009 Accomplishments/2010 Goals & Objectives**

Dr. Ganguli provided an overview of 2009 Accomplishments, and the 2010 Goals & Objectives of the Local Government and Small Business Assistance Advisory Group. The item was approved for forwarding to the Administrative Committee.

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities**

No comments.

#### **Agenda Item #7 – Update on Climate Change Activities (Written Report)**

No comments.

**Agenda Item #8 - Other Business**

Mr. Avila asked whether international agreements can be binding. Mr. Philip Crabbe indicated that they can be binding, especially if the agreeing parties are part of a related international treaty. Mr. Avila commented about the measurement of pollution in China as compared to that performed in the United States.

**Agenda Item #9 - Public Comment**

None.

**Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.